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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-19 (Previously Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) A method of machining a plurality of intersecting bores in an object, ~~the plurality of bores including at least one bore intersecting at least another bore at an acute angle,~~ the method comprising steps of:

- a) machining a first bore;
- b) plugging the first bore with a first plugging member;
- c) machining a second bore adjacent the first bore so as to acutely intersect the first bore and the plugging member; and
- d) removing the plugging member from the ~~first bore.~~ bore;
- e) plugging the second bore with the first plugging member; and
- f) machining a third bore adjacent the second bore so as to acutely intersect the second bore and the first plugging member.

Claim 21. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 20 further comprising the step of plugging a ~~third-fourth~~ bore with a second plugging member prior to performing ~~step e), and wherein the second bore acutely~~

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~~intersects the third bore and the plugging member~~
~~therein step f).~~

Claim 22. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the ~~first~~ second bore and the ~~third~~ fourth bore intersect the ~~second~~ third bore asymmetrically.

Claim 23. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the object has a curved peripheral surface, and wherein the ~~first and second bores~~ are disposed substantially tangentially relative to the curved peripheral surface.

Claim 24. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~claim 20~~ claim 21 wherein the plugging ~~member is~~ members are made of the same material as the object.

Claim 25. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~claim 20~~ claim 21 wherein the plugging ~~member is~~ members are adapted to protect a surface of the ~~first bore~~ bore.

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the first bore is finished before the second bore is machined.

Claim 27. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 26 wherein the machining of the second bore comprises roughing the second bore with the first plugging member remaining in the first bore, and then finishing the second bore with a second plugging member in the first bore to replace the first plugging member therein.

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- Claim 28. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in ~~claim 22~~
claim 21 wherein the ~~first and second and fourth~~ bores
are finished before the ~~second third~~ bore is machined.
- Claim 29. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 28
wherein the machining of the ~~second third~~ bore
comprises roughing and then finishing the ~~second third~~
bore with the ~~first and second~~ plugging members
~~remaining in the respective first and third bores and~~
fourth bores plugged during the entire machining
process of the ~~second third~~ bore.
- Claim 30. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 29
wherein the plurality of the bores are substantially
identical and wherein the second plugging member in
the ~~third bores~~ fourth bore is previously used for
finishing at least one of the bores ~~other than the~~
~~second bore~~.
- Claim 31. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 30
wherein the second plugging member is inserted into
the ~~third fourth~~ bore in a manner in which the second
plugging member will be intersected by the ~~second~~
third bore at a portion not affected in the ~~previous~~
finishing process of the ~~at least one of the bores~~
~~other than the second bore~~ any one of the bores other
than the third bore.
- Claim 32. (Previously Presented) A method of machining a
plurality of asymmetrically intersecting bores in an
object, the method comprising steps of:
- a) machining a first bore;

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- b) inserting a plug into the first bore;
- c) machining a second bore so as to acutely intersect a plugged portion of the first bore;
- d) burnishing a portion of the second bore limited to a depth less than the intersection of the first and second bores.

Claim 33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 32 wherein machining the second bore comprises roughing and finishing the second bore with the plugging member remaining in the first bore.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 33 wherein the plugging member is inserted into the first bore after the first bore is machined with a finishing process.

Claim 35. (Cancelled)

Claim 36. (Cancelled)